TWO LETTERS

TO THE

SAILORS AND *SOLDIERS*,

FROM THE GHOSTS OF

EDWARD AND HENRY.

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LETTER I.

Brave Britiſh Seamen!

IS it poſſible that while the utter deſtruction of England is planned by its enemies, Britiſh Sailors are not upon their duty?—No! it cannot be; or if it is ſo, Britiſh Sailors do not know their danger and their diſgrace.

Have the DARING VILLAINS who have ſowed diſcontent amongſt you, ever told you, that if this Summer is ſpent in quarrelling with your officers and your country, you will ſoon have neither officers nor country to quarrel with?—You will have nothing to quarrel for—you will be only permitted to obey.—Have they told you that France, having made peace with every other power, has the vanity to expect ſhe will conquer England, and ſubdue it *for ever and for aye?* Have theſe villains told you the truth? That truſting to a mutiny amongſt the braveſt body of men that ever plowed the ocean, they intend to invade England? That when its credit and commerce ſhall be gone;—when London ſhall be a ruin on the banks of the Thames, then

the

the Britiſh Navy ſhall be divided between France, Holland, and Spain; and that the Britiſh Seamen will be portioned out in the different ſhips of different countries?

Seamen! If you did not know this fact, know it now: IT IS TRUE; and what is worſe, it will be accompliſhed, if you perſiſt in your diſobedience. The ambition of France never went ſo far as to think of conquering you by force; but now, ſay they, the Britiſh lion has loſt his teeth and his claws—they already rejoice in the victory; and they rejoice with reaſon, for if you continue mutinous, it is certain.—

Shall it ever be ſaid? no, it never ſhall be ſaid, that while the enemies of England were determined on its everlaſting ruin, its defenders were ſquabbling about ounces of bread, and inſulting their king and country—Yes, inſulting the king and country. Has not what you demanded been granted? and has not the mutinous manner it was demanded been pardoned and forgiven? and muſt you ſtill perſiſt?—It is too much: your grievances are redreſſed, or if even any yet remain, is this the time to ſpeak of them? is this the time to mutiny? When you think on what you deſerve for your ſervices and for your bravery, do you forget what you owe to your country, to your wives, your children

and

and yourſelves? When you ſhall have become *bondſmen*, when the work of ruin ſhall be complete, it will then be ſaid—THIS, THIS IS THE WORK OF BRITISH SEAMEN!

Sailors!! the fate of Italy, of Flanders and of Holland, awaits England, if its defenders do not return to order and their duty. Without order and ſubordination a cock-boat is better than a firſt rate man of war. Without order there can be no ſtrength, no exertion, no victory:—without order there can only be ſhame, diſgrace and ſlavery. The chains are now forging that are intended to bind England for ever. Riſe up like one man, ſwear obedience to your officers, keep your oath, conquer your enemies; and when that is done, appeal to your king and country.

HENRY AND EDWARD.

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LETTER II.

Brave Britiſh Soldiers!

WE often led your foreſathers to glory; and we are confident, you will never diſgrace the name of a Britiſh Soldier by diſputing for gain, while you have enemies to conquer.

It is in vain that the ſecret enemies of England ſeek to miſlead the defenders of England; and by making them turn their arms againſt their country, render it an eaſy prey to a foreign foe.

You have not forgotten the fame which Engliſhmen acquired in France at the battles of Agincourt and Creſſy—You never can forget it; and while you remember it, you will never let France rule over your at preſent unhappy country.

No, Soldiers! *When the game-cock lyes down on the dung-hill*, but not till then, ſhall we ſee the defenders of England bargaining with their king, when they ſhould be fighting for him and their country.

WE called your anceſtors to glory—They followed us, and they were not diſappointed. We never gave quarter but to a ſubmiſſive foe; and we

we never ſettled differences amongſt ourſelves whilſt we had an enemy to conquer.

Our Soldiers when marching againſt the French, did not diſdain to eat "*The rudeſt berry on the roughest hedge*;" but when they had fought and conquered, the faireſt fruits of their country were their portion.—Such were Engliſh Soldiers in our days! ſuch we hope they are ſtill; and that ſuch they will always be.

But, Soldiers! remember, that though the enemy is not yet in view, he is approaching—Remember well, that the fall of England is projected and intended. Do not you know that the citizens of Paris are counting up the ſpoils of London?—They are truſting to your diſorder for your deſtruction; and when villanous men ſhall have ſowed diviſion amongſt you, then will the French ſoldiers who have pillaged Italy, come and divide the ſpoils of England.

Shall it ever be ſaid, that while the French are openly boaſting that *London ſhould be laid low*;—that Engliſh gold ſhall fill their pockets, and Engliſh women ſhall lie in their arms; ſhall it ever be ſaid that the defenders of England are otherwiſe employed than in fighting againſt its enemies?—No. Never! never! Was it to let the French raviſh your wives and daughters, and lay waſte your cities, and your fields, that your honoured

honoured anceſtors fought and fell? No, Soldiers! Defend the inheritance they left you; and if you are aggrieved, ſpeak boldly; but do not ſpeak till you have firſt done your duty. Shew that Engliſhmen are ſtill the ſame as they were at Agincourt and Creſſy; and when you have done as your fathers did, woe be to thoſe who ſhall refuſe to do you juſtice.

EDWARD AND HENRY.

FINIS.